

**Practical Instruction for  
Successful Christian Living - Part 1**  
Text: Ephesians 5 & 6

**I. Practical Instruction for the Family**

- 1/ Instruction for Successful Marriages
- 2/ Instruction for Successful Child-parent relationships
- 3/ Instruction for Successful Parenting Relationships

**II. Specific Instructions**

- A. Successful Marriage Relationships - Eph 5:22-33
  - 1/ **love & respect**
  - 2/ Husband is to love his wife
  - 3/ Wife is to respect her husband
- B. Successful Child-parent Relationships - Eph 6:1-3
  - 1/ **obedience & honor**
  - 2/ Children are to obey their parents
  - 3/ Children are to honor their parents
- C. Successful parenting relationship - Eph 6:4
  - 1/ **training & instruction**
  - 2/ Parents are to train their children
  - 3/ Parents are to instruct their children

**III. 4 General Instructions**

- A. General Instruction #1: **Imitate God 5:1-14**
  - 1/ “as dearly beloved children” - vs 1
  - 2/ live a self-sacrificing life of love - vs 2
  - 3/ this becomes a “fragrant sacrifice to God - vs 2b  
a/ see also Ro 12:1
- B. General Instruction #2: **Be filled with the Spirit 5:15-20**
  - 1/ wise living requires understanding God’s will - vs 15-17
  - 2/ *be filled* = “soaked, saturated with”
  - 3/ Gk verb tense = on going / keep being filled
- C. General Instruction #3: **Submit to one another 5:21**
  - 1/ be subject to one another / no “loners”
  - 2/ in light of Christ/looking at Christ I submit to you

*The Msg: Out of respect for Christ, be courteously reverent to one another. Living Bi: Honor Christ by submitting to each other. Today’s English Version: Submit yourselves to one another, because of your reverence to Christ.*

  - 3/ see 1 Peter 5:5
- D. General Instruction #4: **Put on Full Armor of God 6:10-**
  - 1/ You are not fighting your spouse, parent, child
  - 2/ You cannot win the fight without the armor
  - 3/ *put on* = Gk tense = **do it now! make a decision!**

## **IV. Practical Application**

### **A. Prepare Now for 2nd Half 10 points**

- 1/ Sit down together and read through & discuss these 10 “Does” for strengthening your marriage
- 2/ Pick four of them and purpose to do on the the four every week for the next four weeks.
- 3/ Then next month, pick four more; and the following month pick another four, etc.

### **B. Consider the Four General Instructions**

- 1/ *Pursue each - daily*
- 2/ *Seek help & prayer*
- 3/ *Commit to a life-style of Ephesians 5 & 6*